Alternatives to incarcerating juveniles

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Organization of American States
Alternatives and Approaches for Juvenile Offenders

December 1, 2015
U.S. Incarceration Rate, 1925-1972

Note: Incarceration rate is state and federal prison population per 100,000
U.S. Incarceration Rate, 1925-2012

Note: Incarceration rate is state and federal prison population per 100,000
Incarceration in U.S. and Europe, 2012-2013
per 100,000 population

- United Kingdom (England & Wales): 148
- Belgium: 108
- Italy: 105
- France: 100
- Austria: 98
- Netherlands: 82
- Germany: 77
- Denmark: 73
- Sweden: 67

* Prison and Jail
International Juvenile Incarceration Rates

FIGURE 1.1 U.S. crime and imprisonment rates, 1960-2010.
NOTE: The different crime rates have been rescaled, as noted in the figure, to facilitate comparison of time trends.
## Structured Decision Making Grid for New York City Juvenile Probation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Most Serious Current Arrest Charge</th>
<th>Likelihood of Re-Arrest</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Very High or High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLASS I: A, B felonies (violent &amp; non-violent), violent C felonies</td>
<td>Out of Home Placement (range of security options)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLASS II: Non-violent C felonies, violent D felonies</td>
<td>Out of Home Placement or Alternative to Placement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLASS III: Non violent D, All E felonies, misd assault and misd weapons possession</td>
<td>Alternative to Placement or Level 3 Probation (ESP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLASS IV: A misdemeanors except assault and weapons and all B misdemeanors¹</td>
<td>Level 1 or 2 Probation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Mandatory Overrides:
1. Must consider CD or ACD for youth with no unsealed priors. Decision is based on the circumstances of the case²
2. If case goes to trial, use finding offense

### Discretionary Overrides:
POs have discretion to recommend either a more or less restrictive option than the grid provides. However, all overrides - up or down - must be submitted with justification for approval by the PO’s supervisor

¹ Many of these cases should be adjusted at intake
² POs will need to provide justification to their supervisors and Borough Directors if a CD or ACD is not selected for a first-time arrest
# Building a strong service continuum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day Program</th>
<th>AIM</th>
<th>ECHOES</th>
<th>JJI</th>
<th>Non-Secure Placement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Probation Level 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Probation Level 2</strong></td>
<td><strong>Probation Level 3</strong></td>
<td><strong>Description:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Description:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description: Contact: 1 mtg per mo. for 1st 6 mos. plus referral to services as needed. Also 2 collateral and phone contacts per quarter. Home contacts as needed.</td>
<td>Description: Contact: 2 mtgs per mo. plus referral to services as needed. Also 2 collateral and phone contacts per quarter (phone and field visits regarding case plan), including at least 1 home visit.</td>
<td>Description: Contact: Begins with 6 personal contacts and 8 collateral contacts per month. Contact levels gradually decrease over time. Possibility for added curricula TBD, plus referral to services as needed.</td>
<td>Day and/or evening program for youth disconnected from school, followed by level 3 probation after a transitional planning phase prior to completion of Day Treatment.</td>
<td>An “advocate” from within the youth’s own community who works with the youth several times per week. Followed by level 3 probation after a transitional planning phase prior to completion of AIM.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average Duration:</strong> 6 months to 1 year</td>
<td><strong>Average Duration:</strong> 1 year</td>
<td><strong>Average Duration:</strong> 1-2 years</td>
<td><strong>Average Duration:</strong> 6 months</td>
<td><strong>Capacity:</strong> 45 slots; 90 youth per year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Caseload capacity:</strong> 75-80 youth</td>
<td><strong>Caseload capacity:</strong> 30-35 youth</td>
<td><strong>Caseload capacity:</strong> 15-20 youth</td>
<td><strong>Start date:</strong> TBD</td>
<td><strong>Start date:</strong> 7/1/12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
For more information

www.hks.harvard.edu/criminaljustice

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